

### **Conversion of Exchanges into Electronics in Tamil Nadu**

6317. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more electronic telephone exchanges in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the total number of electronic and non-electronic exchanges at present in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) the time by which non-electronic telephone exchanges are likely to be converted into electronics?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1.3.1992, there were 346 electronic exchanges and 929 non-electronic exchanges in Tamil Nadu State.

(c) An exchange is normally replaced when it becomes life expired. In addition, in the draft 8th Plan proposals of Department of Telecom, it is proposed to replace all manual exchanges by March, 1994 and replace small size electromechanical exchanges (MAX-III and line finder type MAX-II) by end of 8th Plan. Conversion to electronic exchanges will, therefore, occur progressively.

### **Post and Telegraph in Tamil Nadu**

6318. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU:  
SHRI R. DHANUSKODI  
ATHITHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some norms have been laid down for setting up Post Offices and Telegraph Offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof, separately;

(c) whether under the existing criteria the Government propose to set up some more Post Offices and Telegraph Offices in Tamil Nadu during 1992;

(d) if so, the details thereof with names of places selected for the purpose and the tribal areas in particular; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The norms for opening of Post Offices are as per statement-I norms for opening of telegraph offices are as per statement-II

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is not feasible to indicate at this stage the details of post offices which may be opened, subject to justification during the financial year 1992 as the target in this respect for the Annual Plan 1992-93 has not been finalised.

During the year 1992, it is proposed to upgrade three combined post and telegraph offices into independent telegraph offices at Gudiyatham, Vridhachalam and Attur.

Telegraph facility on phonocom basis is also proposed to be provided from 15 places indicated in statement-III.

(e) In view of reply to (d) above, the question arise.

**STATEMENT-I**

*Criteria/Norms fixed for opening new post offices in rural areas effective from 1.4.1991.*

*The following norms for opening branch post offices effective from 1-4-1991 have been adopted.*

(i) *Population:*(a) *In Normal areas:*

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO villages).

(b) *In the Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:*

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

(ii) *Distance:*(a) *In normal areas:—*

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms.

(b) *In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible areas:*

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in hilly areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

(iii) *Anticipated income:*(a) *In normal areas:*

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 1/3% (33 1/3%) of cost.

(b) *In hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas:*

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

*Department sub post offices (Plan)*

Since November, 1987 Departmental sub post offices are also sanctioned under the Plan scheme subject to the following conditions:—

(i) The scheme covers departmental sub offices to be set up in project areas, new industrial estates/townships/satellite colonies developed in the periphery of cities/urban agglomerations and other similar development which have come up in new areas in pursuance of the plan activities of State and Central Government departments and agencies. In other words, the concept of Postal sector plan to be enlarged to cover the postal infrastructure required for the overall Regional Plan.

(ii) The proposed sub office should have a minimum anticipated work-load of 5 hours per day.

(iii) While departmental sub offices are expected to be financially self-supporting, in rural areas a loss up to Rs. 2400 per

annum is allowed (Rs. 4800/- in hilly/backward/tribal areas).

### STATEMENT-II

*Norms for setting up of Telegraph Offices are as follows:*

(i) Initially, telegraph facility is introduced through Post Offices called Combined Post and Telegraph Office. With a view to provide greater accessibility to reliable telegraph services, this facility is also being extended on franchise basis, through Long distance Public Telephone Operators.

(ii) Independent Telegraph Offices are set up at all District Headquarters and at places having 500 or more telegraph operations per day. In case a place has more than one Telegraph Office, the most important one from workload point of view is upgraded into a Central Telegraph Office.

### STATEMENT-III

1. Palavadi (Dharmapuri)
2. Ganapathi (Dharmapuri)
3. Dokkutrothanahally (Dharmapuri)
4. Seerangpatty (Dharmapuri)
5. Bommahally (Dharmapuri)
6. Thoppuppalayam (Erode)
7. Addorly (Coonoor)
8. Burlier (Coonoor)
9. Hillgrove (Coonoor)
10. Narashinganallur (Tirunelveli)
11. Kafungadu (Tirunelveli)

12. Karuppanpalayam (Tiruchirappalli)

13. Kavadanpatti (Tiruchirappalli)

14. Sirugudi (Tiruchirappalli)

15. Karadikada (Salem)

[Translation]

### Closure of Food Processing Industries of Co-operative Sector in Bihar

6319. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to reply given on 9th March 1992 to Unstarred Question No. 1915 and state:

(a) whether food processing industries set up in co-operative sector at Madhubani, Darbhanga and Oino in Bihar were closed after operating for some years;

(b) since when these food processing industries are closed; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government and Central Cooperative Institute to re-start these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c). Sanction for the establishment of 3 food processing units in co-operative sector in the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga and Oino was issued by NCDC in the years 1966-67 and the work was completed by the end of 1969. Because of disputes between the contractor and the societies concerned, the units could not take up commercial production. By the time the arbitration for resolving the dispute was complete in 1975, the society lost interest in it and the units lay defunct. Subsequently on the recommendation of the State government, the National